

In the Claims

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) A wireless receiver arrangement for a wireless terminal comprising:

a plurality of antennas forming a diversity antenna arrangement;

SCB  
DL  
a plurality of receive paths, each receive path associated with one of said  
each antennas;

a delay element in at least one of said receive paths;

LI  
a plurality of switches, each switch associated with one of said receive  
paths;

a combiner, arranged to combine receive the output of said plurality of  
switches into a combined signal;

a signal assessor, arranged to assess said combined signal according to a  
predetermined metric; and

a controller means, arranged to individually control said plurality of switches  
and responsive to said signal assessment means; wherein, in operation, signals  
received from at least one of said plurality of selectively switch at least one  
antenna are selectively switched into its the receive path by said control means  
according to a predetermined metric provided by said signal assessment means  
and to determine dependent on said assessment whether to change said signal  
selection or to maintain said signal selection for a predetermined period.

24. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein said predetermined metric is signal assessment means ~~provides a received signal quality receiver~~ metric.

25. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of the receive paths except for one is provided with a delay element arranged to time delay signals received by the antenna associated with said receive path.

26. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein the controller ~~combiner~~ switches signals into the receive path and signals currently in the receive path out of the receive path.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein the ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement uses a code division multiple access technique.

29. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the signal assessor ~~assessment means~~ is arranged to assesses the carrier to noise power ratio of received signals.

30. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the plurality of antennas are separated by distance, whereby spatial diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

Sub D1  
31. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the plurality of antennas have a different polarization, whereby polarization diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

C1 cont  
32. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the plurality of antennas support both spatial and polarization diversity.

33. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein hysteresis is employed to control the switching.

34. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, further comprising ~~wherein at least one antenna comprises a rake receiver arranged to combine signals which are spatially separated.~~

35. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 25 23, ~~wherein the receive paths comprise N diverse receive paths where  $(N > 2)$  and wherein there are n receive paths (where  $n = N-1$ ) each having delay element is means~~ operable to delay the n signals with respect to each other by a

period  $\tau$ , corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said  $n$  signals are provided.

36. (Currently amended) A wireless receiver arrangement according to claim 35 23, wherein the receive paths comprise two diverse receive paths and one receive path is provided with a delay means operable to delay signals in the receive path by a period  $\tau$ , corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said  $n$  signals are provided and wherein MLSE demodulation techniques are employed.

37. (Currently amended) A wireless receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined metric provided by said signal assessment means comprises a multi-path metric which can be set so that only one of said plurality of antenna is employed, and further comprising a rake receiver employed to combine signals which are spatially separated.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently amended) A method of operating a wireless receiver arrangement in a wireless terminal comprising a plurality of antennas forming a diversity antenna arrangement, the method comprising:

receiving signals along at least one of a plurality of receive paths, each receive path associated with an antenna and each having a switch and at least one of said receive paths having a delay element;

selecting at least one ~~switching~~ received signals using a ~~plurality of said~~ switches, ~~each switch associated with the receive path of one of said plurality of~~ antennas;

combining ~~receiving the outputs of at least one of said plurality of~~ switches into a combined signal using a combiner;

~~individually controlling said plurality of switches using control means responsive to signal assessment means;~~

~~selectively switching signals received from at least one of said plurality of antenna into the receive path using said control means~~

assessing said combined signal according to a predetermined metric provided by said signal assessment means; and

dependent on said assessment, deciding whether to change said signal selection or to maintain said signal selection for a predetermined period.

40. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 39, wherein the selecting step ~~combiner~~ switches signals into the receive path and signals currently in the receive path out of the receive path.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 39, wherein the wireless receiver arrangement uses a code division multiple access technique.

43. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein the signals are selected ~~switched~~ only when such signals contribute to the carrier to noise ratio.

44. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39, wherein the plurality of antennas are separated by distance, whereby spatial diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

45. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39 wherein the plurality of antennas are arranged to have a different polarization, whereby polarization diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

46. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39 wherein the plurality of antennas are arranged to support both spatial and polarization diversity.

47. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39, wherein hysteresis is employed to control the switching.

48. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein ~~at least one antenna~~ the receiver further comprises a rake receiver arranged to combine signals ~~which are spatially separated~~.

549. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein the receive paths comprise  $N$  at least two diverse receive paths ~~where  $(N > 2)$~~  and wherein  $N$  each receive paths ~~(where  $N=1$ ) each except for one has a~~ having delay element means operable to delay the  $N$  signals with respect to each other by a period  $\tau$ , corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said  $n$  signals are provided.

50. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 49 further comprising the step of:

~~39, wherein the receive paths comprise two diverse receive paths and one receive path is provided with a delay means operable to delay signals in the receive path by a period  $\tau$ , corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said  $n$  signals are provided and wherein~~

demodulating said combined signal using MLSE demodulation techniques are employed.

51. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein ~~at least one antenna comprises a rake receiver arranged to combine received diversity~~

signals which are spatially separated, and wherein, the predetermined metric comprises a multi-path metric.

52. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed~~ wireless access subscriber equipment arrangement including a ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as described in claim 23.

53. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed-wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement is a fixed wireless subscriber terminal.

54. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed-wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein the ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement is a mobile wireless subscriber terminal.

55. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed-wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein the combiner, the plurality of switches and controller means are arranged to perform switching of received diversity signals at predetermined time intervals which are equivalent to a fraction of a frame of said received diversity signals.

56. (New) A method according to claim 39, wherein the predetermined metric is a received signal quality metric.